

# TAKE THE WASTE REDUCTION CHALLENGE

Each year, between Thanksgiving and New Years Day, household waste increases by more than 25 percent!

This adds up to an additional 1 million tons a week to the nation's landfills. For example, people throw away more than 38,000 miles of ribbon each year. That's enough to tie a bow around the Earth.

This season, try something new, fun and creative—check out our list of suggestions for a greener holiday season.

If you put just 3 of these ideas into action—you can make a difference!

The **Clark County Solid Waste Program** is a cooperative effort of Battle Ground, Camas, Clark County, La Center, Ridgefield, Vancouver, Washougal and Yalcolt.



For an alternative format, contact the Clark County ADA Compliance Office. **V** (360) 397-2025; **TTY** (360) 397-2445; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov



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P. O. Box 9810  
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**proud past, promising future**

# REDUCE HOLIDAY WASTE



REDUCE • REUSE • RECYCLE

# TAKE THE HOLIDAY WASTE REDUCTION CHALLENGE

## When holiday shopping. . .

- Bring your own cloth bags for holiday shopping
- Combine shopping trips
- Take public transportation
- Shop close to home when possible
- E-shop for gift certificates

## . . . buying a tree and decorating it

- Decorate a potted tree that can be a year-round house plant or purchase a live tree, then transplant outdoors
- Decorate with reusable glass icicles instead of disposable tinsel

## . . . or having a party

- Use reusable plates and utensils
- Set up a recycling station for guests to use
- Pay attention to party food portion sizes so you don't make too much food; ask guests to bring reusable containers so they can take home leftovers.

## . . . wrapping presents

- Make reusable holiday stockings or bags for small gifts
- Wrap gifts in an existing box or container
- Replace ribbons and bows with hair scrunchies, shoe laces, scarves and neckties
- Use natural items for decorating gifts (grasses, thistle pods, seeds, pinecones, leaves)
- Use alternative wrapping such as newspaper comics or old posters, maps and sheet music
- Buy wrapping paper that is not foil so it can be recycled, and buy paper that is made from recycled materials
- Choose wrapping paper and ribbon that can be used for gift occasions year-round

- Use smaller lights—or LED lights—they use less energy and burn cooler
- Recycle your cut tree—the Scouts or school fundraiser projects can help you



## . . . try something new— and make a difference!

For more information,  
visit Clark County's  
Department of Public Works  
website



[http://www.clark.wa.gov/recycle/  
holidaywastereduction.html](http://www.clark.wa.gov/recycle/holidaywastereduction.html)